In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A security document comprising:

a substrate;

text printed on the substrate;

a graphic carried by the substrate, the graphic conveying a visual impression to human viewers thereof;

the graphic additionally being steganographically encoded to secretly convey plural bits of digital data recoverable by computer analysis of said graphic**, said steganographic encoding being locally scaled in amplitude in accordance with visible features of said graphic** .

Please add new claims as follows:

--18. A photo identification document, characterized by steganographic encoding representing multi-bit data, said multi-bit data being computer-discernable from analysis of visible light scan data, but the existence of said encoded data not being evident to human observers of the document.

19. A plastic document according to claim 18.

20. A driver's license according to claim 18.

21. A plastic-encased driver's license according to claim 18.

22. The photo identification document of claim 18, wherein the steganographic encoding includes:

providing the multi-bit data and at least one noise signal to a computing device;

receiving from said computing device a noise-like output signal; and

additively applying the noise-like output signal to the document.

23. The photo identification document of claim 22 in which the encoding is locally scaled in amplitude in accordance with visible features on the document.

24. The photo identification document of claim 18 in which the encoding is locally scaled in amplitude in accordance with visible features on the document.

25. A method of detecting alteration of a printed document, the printed document including a photograph of an individual, the method including:

providing the document with supplemental data, the supplemental data being below a threshold of human perception when represented in the document;

distributing the document with the supplemental data;

acquiring a suspect document;

determining, by reference to supplemental data expected to be found in the document, whether the suspect document has been altered.

26. The method of claim 25 in which the supplemental data can be discerned by computer analysis of visible light scan data corresponding to said document.

27. The method of claim 25 which includes providing the document with supplemental data by adding a noise-like signal thereto, wherein the noise-like signal is tailored in correspondence with a feature of the document so as to better hide the supplemental data.

28. The method of claim 25 in which the alteration is the substitution of new data into said document.

29. A method of determining alteration of a document that includes a photograph of an individual, characterized by sensing an auxiliary signal at different regions of the document, said auxiliary signal not being apparent to a human observer, and, by reference to the signal so-sensed, identifying at least one region as having been altered.